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Letter dated 22 May 2014 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and with reference to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 1977 (2011), I have the honour to transmit herewith the thirteenth programme of work of the Committee, covering the period from 1 June 2014 to 31 January 2015 (see annex).

The Committee would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) **Oh** Joon
Chair
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

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Annex

Programme of work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) for the period from 1 June 2014 to 31 January 2015

I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1977 (2011), decided that the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) should submit an annual programme of work to the Council before the end of each May. The thirteenth programme of work of the Committee covers the period from 1 June 2014 to 31 January 2015. The Committee has agreed on the following work programme to fulfil its responsibilities under Council resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011).

2. The Security Council, in paragraph 9 of its resolution 1977 (2011), decided that the Committee should continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) through its programme of work. This includes the compilation and general examination of information on the status of States' implementation of the resolution, in addition to their efforts at outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation, and addresses in particular all aspects of paragraphs 1 to 3 of that resolution, which encompasses accountability, physical protection, border controls and law enforcement efforts and national export and trans-shipment controls, including controls on providing funds and services such as financing related to such exports and trans-shipments. The programme of work also includes, as necessary, specific priorities for the work of the Committee, taking into account its annual review on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), prepared with the assistance of the group of experts before the end of each December.

3. The Committee will continue to work with Member States on the implementation of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011), guided by the principles of transparency, equal treatment, cooperation and consistency in its approach.

4. In order to implement the thirteenth programme of work more efficiently, the Committee will continue to operate a system of four working groups, open to all of its members. The working groups will focus on important and recurring issues. Each working group has specific tasks related to the programme of work, which are set out below. Each will be chaired by a member of the Committee, and support will be provided by the Secretariat and the Committee's group of experts. In addition, the Committee will publish a schedule of periodic meetings of the four working groups with a view to meeting its objectives efficiently and promptly. The meetings will include periodic feedback by the working groups responsible for tracking progress with respect to monitoring and national implementation; assistance; cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001); and transparency and media outreach.

5. All working group meetings will be open to and announced to all Security Council delegations, and related documents will be circulated to them prior to the

meetings. The work will be organized in a manner that enables all delegations, regardless of size, to participate fully in the activities of the working groups. The Committee will promote greater transparency by, where relevant, holding open meetings on the working group outcomes approved by the Committee and communicating them to national contact points. The Committee, in cooperation with the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information, will also update its website regularly.

II. Tasks of the Committee and its four working groups

6. The Committee will focus its attention on, but not limit it to, the following main areas of work: (a) monitoring and national implementation; (b) assistance; (c) cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001); and (d) transparency and media outreach. In addition, the Committee will consider issues related to administration and resources.

Monitoring and national implementation

7. In the area of monitoring and national implementation, the Committee will:

(a) Prepare a review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) before 31 December 2014, in line with the requirements of paragraph 9 of resolution 1977 (2011), and address all aspects of resolution 1540 (2004), in particular all aspects of its paragraphs 1 to 3, including developing and maintaining efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004) in accordance with national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law, and with a view to including a brief update on the status of implementation of the tasks contained in the current programme of work and, as necessary, specific priorities for the next programme of work;

(b) With the objective of achieving universal reporting by the end of 2014, which marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), strengthen its efforts to encourage States that have not yet submitted their first report to do so;

(c) Encourage expansion of the network of points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) and develop a strategy to make the best use of the network, including consideration of regional and geographic meetings;

(d) Review the matrices for all States Members of the United Nations by August 2014 to allow the information to be reflected in the annual review of implementation; update and maintain the matrices as "living documents" using incoming first reports and submissions of additional information from States, researching available websites of Governments and international, regional and subregional organizations and conducting dialogue with States (including during country visits conducted at the invitation of States) and participate in relevant outreach or implementation activities to gather relevant information on national implementation efforts; make the matrices available to States and encourage States to strengthen their efforts to regularly share with the Committee information that updates their efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004);

(e) Continue to encourage States, in line with paragraphs 7 and 12 of resolution 1977 (2011), to identify and voluntarily report effective national practices

in implementing resolution 1540 (2004); identify, prepare and make available, as appropriate, a compilation of effective practices in accordance with paragraphs 7 and 12 of resolution 1977 (2011), in a searchable, accessible format so that the practices might be used in providing further general and specific guidance, upon request, to States seeking assistance in implementing the resolution;

(f) Encourage all States, under paragraph 8 of resolution 1977 (2011), to prepare on a voluntary basis national implementation action plans, as appropriate, mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004), and to submit those plans to the Committee;

(g) Continue to raise awareness about those multilateral treaties and conventions that aim to prevent the proliferation of, or to eliminate, nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and in the context of paragraph 8 (a) of resolution 1540 (2004), to promote the universal adoption, the full implementation and, where necessary, the strengthening of multilateral treaties to which States are parties, whose aim is to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, biological or chemical weapons;

(h) Continue its consideration of the obligations and requirements under resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011) to identify areas for further work by the Committee, and encourage implementation and review progress in such areas through active cooperation with relevant States, as well as with international, regional and subregional organizations.

Assistance

8. In the area of assistance, the Committee will:

(a) Continue to collect an up-to-date list of requests for or interest in assistance by States and offers of, interest in and programmes of assistance by States and international, regional and subregional organizations; create a public list of possible forms of assistance, including actual examples to illustrate methods of assistance; maintain a regularly updated database of requests for and offers of assistance and where they have been matched;

(b) Review requests, offers and related assistance programmes to develop more effective matching strategies;

(c) Further promote country-specific visits, at the invitation of States, to better understand the challenges of national implementation and help States to obtain assistance;

(d) With input from the Committee's working group on assistance and its working group on cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), where appropriate, continue to organize and participate in outreach activities at the international, regional and subregional levels; be prepared to emphasize and engage in assistance programmes, promote the sharing of experience, lessons learned and effective practices and be ready to facilitate offers of or requests for assistance;

(e) Work with Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations to help them to make more effective offers of, or, in the case of States, more effective requests for, assistance;

(f) Consider regional approaches to assistance needs and efforts to meet them, including requests for assistance made through regional organizations or jointly by States members of customs unions, free trade zones or zones free of nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, and prepare a report on those opportunities before the end of the thirteenth programme of work;

(g) Provide an update on the status of requests for assistance and offers made to the Committee on a regular basis, no less frequently than every quarter.

Cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001)

9. With respect to cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), the Committee will:

(a) Continue to enhance its cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations and develop ways of operating with those organizations on a case-by-case basis, reflecting the variation in each organization's capacity and mandate, including exchanges at the working level, briefings to and from the Committee and enhanced information-sharing arrangements;

(b) Establish a set of strategic goals and specific objectives for its work with the international, regional and subregional organizations with which it cooperates by the end of the thirteenth programme of work; this initial strategy should focus on the exchange of information on actions taken to foster the implementation of the resolution, points of contact and effective practices and assistance, against which the Committee can review its efforts in subsequent programmes of work;

(c) Under paragraph 18 of resolution 1977 (2011), continue to encourage international, regional and subregional organizations to designate and provide a point of contact or coordinator for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and maintain up-to-date information on such contacts;

(d) Maintain dialogue and exchange information with designated points of contact or coordinators on issues related to their contributions to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(e) Where directly relevant to the goals of the Committee's programme of work, continue to participate in major events organized by international, regional and subregional organizations as an opportunity for dialogue with them and their points of contact or coordinators;

(f) Explore opportunities for synergies with the other related Committees and their experts and monitoring teams and, where appropriate, participate in joint visits and joint direct interactions with States;

(g) Continue to participate in the joint briefings of the Security Council;

(h) As appropriate, expand both formal and informal working relationships with international non-proliferation mechanisms, including zones free of nuclear weapons or weapons of mass destruction, work streams of the Nuclear Security Summit and other United Nations bodies and international, regional and subregional organizations, where applicable:

(i) To facilitate the sharing of information on effective practices and lessons learned, in addition to templates and guidance, including with a view to their incorporation into the compilation envisaged in subparagraph 7 (e);

(ii) To identify assistance requirements and programmes whereby its work with international, regional and subregional organizations can focus on facilitating the activities of those organizations aimed at remedying national implementation challenges, such as reconciling priorities, harmonizing approaches, facilitating advisory and drafting services and matching requests and offers of assistance, and to promote regional cooperation and communication on the implementation of the resolution;

(iii) To enhance information-sharing, technical assistance, the coordination of visits to countries within the respective mandates of the Committee and the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1373 (2001), and other relevant issues, as appropriate.

Transparency and media outreach

10. In the areas of transparency and media outreach, the Committee will:

(a) Increase interaction on a regular basis with all States Members of the United Nations, including, where appropriate, through open meetings, as noted in paragraph 20 of resolution 1977 (2011), and by regularly updating its website;

(b) With input from the working group on monitoring and national implementation, post updated matrices on the Committee's website, as appropriate;

(c) Publish on the Committee's website the calendar of outreach events and workshops conducted, sponsored or co-sponsored by the Committee or Member States, in addition to information notes on such activities, and update and maintain a list of frequently asked questions;

(d) Produce and update regularly, at least monthly, a calendar of outreach events and similar activities, covering periods of at least six months in the future, that includes information on other relevant activities of States, international, regional and subregional organizations, the Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and other United Nations bodies;

(e) Encourage States to promote dialogue and cooperation, including with civil society and academia, to address threats posed by illicit trafficking in nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery, and related materials;

(f) Encourage States to develop appropriate ways to work with and inform industry regarding its obligations under national laws in line with subparagraph 8 (d) of resolution 1540 (2004);

(g) Consider and seize opportunities, as appropriate, for direct interaction, with their States' consent, with relevant industries and industry groups, academia and civil society;

(h) Continue to increase efforts to raise awareness among parliamentarians and other high-level decision makers;

(i) In line with subparagraphs 5 (b) and 22 (d) of resolution 1977 (2011), consider ways to better utilize and maintain expertise, including, in particular, of former experts of the group, that could be made available for specific missions and assistance needs regarding the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004);

(j) Continue to brief the Security Council, Member States and international, regional and subregional organizations, formally and informally, about the work of the Committee and the obligations and requirements under resolution 1540 (2004);

(k) Promote the tenth anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), and make use of the anniversary to facilitate outreach efforts, in particular to non-reporting States.

III. Administration and resources

11. In its consideration of issues related to administration and resources, the Committee will:

(a) Encourage the Office for Disarmament Affairs to continue to strengthen its regional capacity to provide support for the implementation of the resolution;

(b) Continue to conduct regular meetings of the Committee and its working groups and, as necessary, additional meetings with relevant parties to further the mandate of resolution 1540 (2004), including meetings that might require participation from capitals on high-priority topics;

(c) Encourage States and international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, to provide support for the work of the Committee and its programmes;

(d) Continue to encourage and take full advantage of voluntary financial contributions to assist States in identifying and addressing their needs for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and, at the Committee's discretion, promote the efficient and effective use of the existing funding mechanisms within the United Nations system;

(e) Continue its efforts to ease the transition of new non-permanent members to the Committee, including by making relevant documentation available and providing appropriate briefings, and maintain the network of non-permanent members leaving the Committee to provide support for the implementation of the resolution;

(f) In all aspects of its work, consider what methodologies might be appropriate to produce quantitative measures of success within the terms of resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011), including examining options for technical support to allow better analysis of the data and facilitate reporting through an electronic search tool.